

Chuck Clarke

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Director



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DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
WATER RESOURCES

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

7272 Cleanwater Lane, LU-11 • Olympia, Washington 98504-6811 • (206) 753-2353

April 30, 1992

CERTIFIED MAIL

Garth Jackson
Resource Development Coordinator
City of Tacoma Public Utilities Division
Post Office Box 11007
Tacoma, WA 98411-0007

Dear Mr. Jackson:

The City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, filed an application for a license for the Nisqually River Hydroelectric Project with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in December 1991, under FERC No. 1862.

A request for water quality certification was made to Ecology on May 2, 1991, by the City's representative, Harza, Inc. Ecology acknowledged receipt of the request for certification on May 9, 1992.

Ecology finds that adequate information, necessary to make an informed decision on the merits of the request for water quality certification, has been provided and hereby certifies that the project described above complies with the applicable provisions of section 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, provided the following conditions are met:

I. OIL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPILL PREVENTION AND CONTROL

1. An Oil and Hazardous Materials Spill Prevention, Containment, and Countermeasure Plan shall be made available to Ecology when FERC issues the license for the Nisqually Hydroelectric Project. The plan shall address all equipment and materials at the site used during operation of this project. Equipment includes the turbine/generator set and all oil-filled transformers and capacitors to serve this project.
2. Extreme care shall be taken to prevent any toxic or deleterious materials from entering state waters or the soil.
3. Visible floating oils released from the project area shall be contained and removed from the water immediately. No emulsifiers or dispersants are to be used in waters of the state without approval from the Southwest Regional Office of the Department of Ecology.
4. All land-based oil storage tanks shall be placed on an impervious surface. The petroleum storage area shall be diked to contain all the oil from the largest tank in the event of a catastrophic failure of the storage tank.

Fuel hoses, oil drums, etc., shall be maintained and stored properly to prevent discharges. Proper security shall be maintained to discourage vandalism.

6. In the event of a discharge of any oil or hazardous materials into state waters, or on land with a potential for entry into state waters, containment and cleanup efforts shall begin immediately and be completed as soon as possible. Cleanup shall include proper disposal of any spilled material and used cleanup materials. Ecology shall be notified immediately by telephone at (206) 753-2353 (24-hour number).
7. There shall be adequate employee training for spill prevention, containment, and cleanup and a clear chain of authority and reporting procedures in case of an accidental spill.
8. The Oil Spill Prevention and Control plan shall be on-site at all times and shall be available for review by an Ecology inspector. Project employees will be familiar with procedures contained therein. Those measure identified in the plan concerning petroleum storage shall be in place.

II. INSTREAM FLOWS

1. The minimum instream flow in the Nisqually River between the LaGrande powerhouse and LaGrande dam shall be five cubic feet per second (cfs).

III. OTHER

1. There shall be no excursions beyond the water quality criteria described in Chapter 173-201-045 (2)(c).

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this Certification, please contact Bill Young at (206) 586-5551.

Sincerely,



William H. Backous, P.E.
Southwest Region Supervisor
Water Quality Programs

WHB:dc

cc: Lois Cashell, Secretary, FERC, Washington, D.C.
Dean Shumway, Director, FERC, Washington, D.C.
Arthur Martin, Regional Director, FERC, Portland, OR
Rod Sakrison, Hydropower Coordinator, Water Resources Program ✓
Corps 404 Coordinator, Central Programs
Dave Peeler, Basin Planning and Standards Section, Water Quality Program
Gail Blomstrom, Water Resources Supervisor, Southwest Regional Office
Pamela Klatt, Harza Northwest, Inc.
Mark Hunter, Washington State Department of Fisheries
Curt Leigh, Washington State Department of Wildlife
George Walters, Nisqually Tribe